

# Crop Weather Report

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|-------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| <b>Issue: 08-24</b>     | Montana Field Office • 10 W 15 <sup>th</sup> St, Suite 3100 • Helena, MT 59626                       | <b>Released: Aug. 25, 2008</b> |
| Issued: Weekly: Apr-Oct | (406) 441-1240 • (406) 441-1250 FAX • <a href="http://www.nass.usda.gov/mt">www.nass.usda.gov/mt</a> | For the Week Ending:           |
| Monthly: Nov-Mar        |  | Aug. 24, 2008                  |

## Weather Summary

Most of Montana received below normal precipitation for the week ending August 24<sup>th</sup>. The northwest district received a moderate amount of precipitation. Superior received the most weekly accumulated precipitation at 1.45 inches. Twelve cities either set new daily high temperature records or tied with previous high records during the week. Highs were mostly in the 90s to 100s, and lows mostly ranged from 30s to 40s. Roundup had the high temperature of 105 degrees, and Wisdom had the low temperature of 26 degrees. Topsoil moisture adequate and surplus, at 18 percent, is below last week's 20 percent, above last year's 12 percent, and is the same as the five-year average. Subsoil moisture adequate and surplus is 20 percent, unchanged from last week but above last year's 19 percent and the five-year average of 17 percent. The number of days suitable for field work was 6.0 days, down from the previous week's 6.5 days.

The weather outlook for September 1<sup>st</sup> through September 7<sup>th</sup> is for below normal temperatures and above normal precipitation east of the continental divide and for above normal temperatures and near normal precipitation west of the divide. Normal temperatures for this period in Montana are highs ranging from 70 to 80 degrees and lows in the lower 30s to the lower 50s.

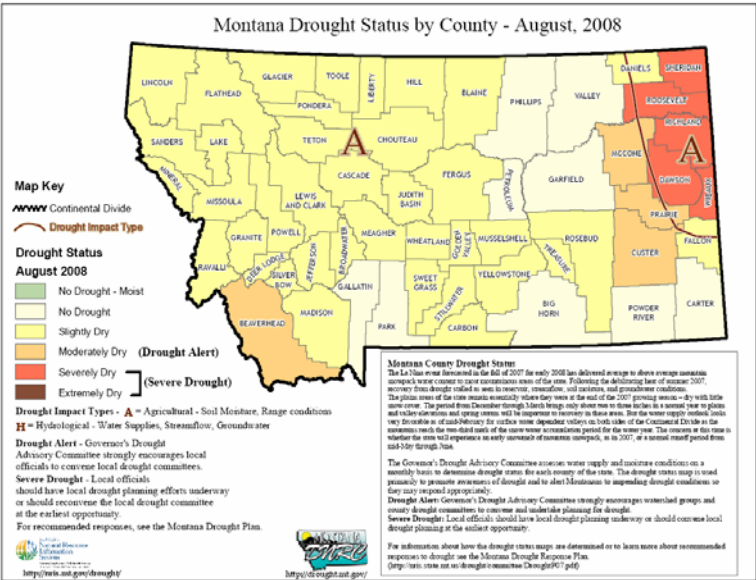
# Field Crops Report

Durum wheat, oats, and spring wheat conditions declined this week while barley conditions improved slightly. The second cutting of hay is well underway. Corn is a few weeks behind normal in progress, and irrigated corn producers may have to irrigate late this year. The south central and southeast districts are seeing a high number of grasshoppers in dryland fields. Harvesting of all the small grains is still behind last year.

| Crop Condition Table | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5 Yr Avg |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| <b>Barley</b>        |           |           |           |          |
| Very Poor            | 2         | 2         | n/a       | n/a      |
| Poor                 | 8         | 8         | n/a       | n/a      |
| Fair                 | 41        | 43        | n/a       | n/a      |
| Good                 | 42        | 39        | n/a       | n/a      |
| Excellent            | 7         | 8         | n/a       | n/a      |
| <b>Durum Wheat</b>   |           |           |           |          |
| Very Poor            | 18        | 18        | n/a       | n/a      |
| Poor                 | 28        | 26        | n/a       | n/a      |
| Fair                 | 31        | 30        | n/a       | n/a      |
| Good                 | 22        | 25        | n/a       | n/a      |
| Excellent            | 1         | 1         | n/a       | n/a      |
| <b>Oats</b>          |           |           |           |          |
| Very Poor            | 14        | 3         | n/a       | n/a      |
| Poor                 | 4         | 10        | n/a       | n/a      |
| Fair                 | 45        | 49        | n/a       | n/a      |
| Good                 | 33        | 37        | n/a       | n/a      |
| Excellent            | 4         | 1         | n/a       | n/a      |
| <b>Spring Wheat</b>  |           |           |           |          |
| Very Poor            | 5         | 7         | n/a       | n/a      |
| Poor                 | 17        | 15        | n/a       | n/a      |
| Fair                 | 36        | 33        | n/a       | n/a      |
| Good                 | 37        | 41        | n/a       | n/a      |
| Excellent            | 5         | 4         | n/a       | n/a      |

| Soil Moisture & Field Work Table   | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5 Yr Avg |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| <b>Topsoil Moisture</b>            |           |           |           |          |
| Very Short                         | 30        | 29        | 47        | 45       |
| Short                              | 52        | 51        | 41        | 37       |
| Adequate                           | 18        | 20        | 12        | 17       |
| Surplus                            | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1        |
| <b>Subsoil Moisture</b>            |           |           |           |          |
| Very Short                         | 29        | 32        | 41        | 45       |
| Short                              | 51        | 48        | 40        | 38       |
| Adequate                           | 20        | 19        | 19        | 17       |
| Surplus                            | 0         | 1         | 0         | 0        |
| <b>Days Suitable for Fieldwork</b> |           |           |           |          |
| Days                               | 6.0       | 6.5       | 6.4       | 6.3      |

| Crop Progress Table | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5 Yr Avg |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Turning             |           |           |           |          |
| Durum Wheat         | 95        | 92        | 96        | 89       |
| Harvested           |           |           |           |          |
| Barley              | 60        | 29        | 87        | 70       |
| Dry Peas            | 95        | 75        | 89        | n/a      |
| Durum Wheat         | 50        | 40        | 67        | 49       |
| Lentils             | 86        | 70        | 86        | n/a      |
| Oats                | 71        | 42        | 90        | 74       |
| Spring Wheat        | 61        | 37        | 82        | 68       |
| Winter Wheat        | 87        | 70        | 100       | 96       |
| Hay Second Cutting  |           |           |           |          |
| Alfalfa             | 77        | 56        | 87        | 74       |
| All Other Hay       | 60        | 33        | 79        | 62       |



# Livestock Report

More ranchers have moved their livestock from summer ranges this past week. Movement is similar to the five-year average. Range and pasture feed conditions have declined this week with 27 percent good to excellent compared to 32 percent the previous week.

| Range & Livestock Table                   | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5 Yr Avg |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| <b>Range and Pasture Feed Condition</b>   |           |           |           |          |
| Very Poor                                 | 9         | 8         | 10        | 16       |
| Poor                                      | 28        | 25        | 20        | 24       |
| Fair                                      | 36        | 35        | 33        | 34       |
| Good                                      | 20        | 25        | 33        | 22       |
| Excellent                                 | 7         | 7         | 4         | 4        |
| <b>Livestock Moved From Summer Ranges</b> |           |           |           |          |
| Cattle and Calves                         | 6         | 2         | 16        | 7        |
| Sheep and Lambs                           | 7         | 2         | 12        | 5        |

**THIS INFORMATION IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET AT: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/mt/>**

***Completed and Summarized by:***  
**USDA, NASS, Montana Field Office**

***In conjunction with:* MSU Extension Agents  
USDA County Service Centers**

## Weather Information for the Week ending 08/24/2008

| Station ID  |             |     |     |      |     | Precipitation |       |                 |       |      |                   |        |      |
|---|-------------|-----|-----|------|-----|---------------|-------|-----------------|-------|------|-------------------|--------|------|
|   | Temperature |     |     | GDDs |     | This Week     |       | April 1 to Date |       |      | October 1 to Date |        |      |
|   | Hi          | LOW | AVG | B50  | DFN | Total         | DFN   | Total           | DFN   | %NRM | Total             | DFN    | %NRM |
| NORTHWEST   |             |     |     |      |     |               |       |                 |       |      |                   |        |      |
| Alberton  | 99          | 42  | 65  | 103  | -5  | 1.06          | +0.78 | 6.51            | -0.23 | 97   | 15.79             | +3.29  | 126  |
| Anaconda  | 95          | 35  | 64  | 97   | +9  | 1.06          | +0.71 | 6.88            | -0.67 | 91   | 13.35             | +1.37  | 111  |
| Clinton   | 98          | 38  | 63  | 91   | +22 | 1.09          | +0.82 | 7.91            | +1.55 | 124  | 16.46             | +2.58  | 119  |
| Corvallis   | 99          | 40  | 64  | 98   | -6  | 0.83          | +0.55 | 3.56            | -2.59 | 58   | 7.89              | -2.53  | 76   |
| Creston   | 96          | 42  | 65  | 104  | +15 | 0.56          | +0.21 | 8.56            | -1.48 | 85   | 12.38             | -5.91  | 68   |
| Deer Lodge  | 93          | 37  | 61  | 81   | +9  | 0.43          | +0.15 | 5.63            | -1.19 | 83   | 8.03              | -1.23  | 87   |
| Drummond  | 98          | 37  | 63  | 90   | +0  | 0.88          | +0.56 | 6.19            | -0.59 | 91   | 10.93             | -0.38  | 97   |
| Hamilton  | 93          | 45  | 65  | 106  | +7  | 0.00          | -0.28 | 2.62            | -3.64 | 42   | 5.97              | -3.20  | 65   |
| Kalispell   | 99          | 42  | 66  | 111  | +25 | 0.50          | +0.22 | 6.54            | -1.40 | 82   | 11.62             | -4.14  | 74   |
| Missoula  | 100         | 42  | 68  | 127  | +19 | 0.66          | +0.38 | 5.35            | -1.39 | 79   | 10.08             | -2.42  | 81   |
| Olney   | 97          | 33  | 59  | 63   | -5  | 0.48          | +0.13 | 5.88            | -3.48 | 63   | 18.60             | -2.60  | 88   |
| Polson  | 98          | 43  | 65  | 106  | -10 | 0.93          | +0.63 | 7.24            | -0.85 | 89   | 11.55             | -3.00  | 79   |
| St Ignatius   | 101         | 43  | 65  | 108  | -5  | 1.38          | +1.10 | 8.75            | +0.09 | 101  | 12.80             | -2.10  | 86   |
| Seeley Lake   | 96          | 43  | 66  | 110  | +25 | 0.07          | -0.28 | 4.54            | -2.94 | 61   | 15.21             | -3.83  | 80   |
| Sula  | 93          | 33  | 62  | 84   | +21 | 0.33          | -0.02 | 6.80            | -1.65 | 80   | 12.56             | -2.00  | 86   |
| Superior  | 101         | 35  | 66  | 111  | -9  | 1.45          | +1.11 | 9.81            | +2.92 | 142  | 18.94             | +3.70  | 124  |
| Swan Lake   | 98          | 38  | 62  | 89   | +22 | 0.74          | +0.32 | 8.36            | -1.49 | 85   | 24.97             | -1.45  | 95   |
| Thompson Falls  | 104         | 44  | 69  | 134  | +5  | 1.15          | +0.87 | 6.39            | -1.71 | 79   | 22.55             | +0.92  | 104  |
| West Glacier  | 96          | 40  | 64  | 99   | +13 | 0.70          | +0.29 | 8.78            | -2.11 | 81   | 26.96             | +0.45  | 102  |
| NORTH CENTRAL   |             |     |     |      |     |               |       |                 |       |      |                   |        |      |
| Chester   | 94          | 40  | 69  | 131  | +27 | 0.22          | -0.06 | 7.18            | +0.05 | 101  | 8.81              | -0.72  | 92   |
| Chinook   | 97          | 42  | 68  | 130  | +14 | 0.17          | -0.14 | 9.46            | +1.21 | 115  | 11.69             | +0.36  | 103  |
| Choteau   | 91          | 39  | 64  | 99   | -7  | 0.06          | -0.28 | 8.62            | +1.31 | 118  | 10.98             | +1.89  | 121  |
| Cut Bank  | 95          | 39  | 65  | 107  | +22 | 0.04          | -0.38 | 10.01           | +1.44 | 117  | 10.94             | -0.09  | 99   |
| Ft Assinniboine   | 97          | 39  | 69  | 133  | +7  | 0.16          | -0.12 | 8.47            | +0.17 | 102  | 10.15             | -1.40  | 88   |
| Fort Benton   | 98          | 41  | 70  | 140  | +15 | 0.17          | -0.18 | 9.66            | +1.18 | 114  | 12.17             | +0.01  | 100  |
| Goldbutte   | 95          | 39  | 66  | 116  | +24 | 0.45          | +0.03 | 9.52            | +0.80 | 109  | 11.80             | -0.07  | 99   |
| Harlem  | 99          | 41  | 71  | 146  | +30 | 0.28          | +0.07 | 6.96            | -0.53 | 93   | 8.42              | -1.54  | 85   |
| Havre   | 98          | 42  | 70  | 141  | +24 | 0.20          | -0.08 | 6.87            | -0.23 | 97   | 8.35              | -1.88  | 82   |
| Malta   | 102         | 42  | 73  | 160  | +43 | 0.05          | -0.21 | 7.65            | -0.83 | 90   | 11.32             | -0.13  | 99   |
| Rudyard   | 94          | 42  | 68  | 128  | +18 | 0.03          | -0.25 | 8.90            | +2.00 | 129  | 9.59              | +0.85  | 110  |
| Shelby  | 96          | 40  | 67  | 117  | +23 | 0.04          | -0.31 | 7.29            | -0.53 | 93   | 8.58              | -2.20  | 80   |
| Turner  | 98          | 39  | 70  | 141  | +33 | 0.06          | -0.15 | 8.06            | +0.55 | 107  | 9.28              | -0.49  | 95   |
| Valier  | 94          | 42  | 66  | 112  | +4  | 0.12          | -0.30 | 7.78            | -0.67 | 92   | 9.80              | -0.98  | 91   |
| NORTHEAST   |             |     |     |      |     |               |       |                 |       |      |                   |        |      |
| Bredette  | 98          | 38  | 69  | 133  | +9  | 0.28          | +0.00 | 7.56            | -1.54 | 83   | 10.35             | -1.18  | 90   |
| Culbertson  | 98          | 39  | 71  | 145  | +17 | 0.28          | +0.01 | 5.83            | -3.28 | 64   | 8.05              | -3.76  | 68   |
| Glasgow   | 103         | 41  | 72  | 151  | +23 | 0.06          | -0.22 | 9.21            | +1.76 | 124  | 11.52             | +1.50  | 115  |
| Glendive  | 98          | 44  | 75  | 175  | +33 | 0.47          | +0.15 | 7.38            | -1.28 | 85   | 9.19              | -2.70  | 77   |
| Jordan  | 102         | 40  | 71  | 149  | +15 | 0.21          | -0.03 | 8.27            | +0.17 | 102  | 11.63             | +0.20  | 102  |
| Nashua  | 101         | 38  | 73  | 166  | +21 | 0.24          | +0.01 | 9.55            | +1.48 | 118  | 11.62             | +1.25  | 112  |
| Opheim  | 97          | 30  | 68  | 130  | +32 | 0.06          | -0.16 | 8.53            | -0.31 | 96   | 10.77             | -0.21  | 98   |
| Plentywood  | 97          | 37  | 70  | 140  | +23 | 0.32          | +0.04 | 7.56            | -1.20 | 86   | 9.71              | -1.83  | 84   |
| St Marie  | 98          | 42  | 72  | 156  | +28 | 0.02          | -0.26 | 6.93            | -0.52 | 93   | 8.94              | -1.08  | 89   |
| Scobey  | 101         | 33  | 70  | 142  | +37 | 0.25          | -0.10 | 11.05           | +1.99 | 122  | 13.98             | +2.64  | 123  |
| Sidney  | 97          | 43  | 73  | 162  | +27 | 0.32          | +0.04 | 5.75            | -3.32 | 63   | 7.53              | -5.03  | 60   |
| Wolf Point  | 102         | 37  | 71  | 148  | +6  | 0.34          | +0.08 | 8.35            | +0.50 | 106  | 9.84              | -0.67  | 94   |
| CENTRAL   |             |     |     |      |     |               |       |                 |       |      |                   |        |      |
| Cascade   | 92          | 35  | 65  | 110  | +31 | 0.28          | -0.07 | 11.19           | +2.07 | 123  | 15.79             | +3.13  | 125  |
| Grass Range   | 95          | 39  | 69  | 132  | +26 | 0.07          | -0.28 | 12.14           | +1.50 | 114  | 16.10             | +1.16  | 108  |
| Great Falls   | 98          | 46  | 70  | 144  | +42 | 0.05          | -0.34 | 8.90            | -0.03 | 100  | 11.73             | -1.63  | 88   |
| Harlowton   | 96          | 43  | 67  | 117  | +17 | 0.00          | -0.35 | 11.59           | +2.34 | 125  | 15.74             | +3.11  | 125  |
| Helena  | 99          | 48  | 70  | 144  | +35 | 0.11          | -0.17 | 5.36            | -1.52 | 78   | 7.90              | -2.13  | 79   |
| Lewistown   | 97          | 42  | 67  | 119  | +22 | 0.21          | -0.21 | 11.02           | +0.20 | 102  | 13.74             | -2.37  | 85   |
| Martinsdale   | 93          | 33  | 65  | 108  | +33 | 0.00          | -0.35 | 7.95            | -0.79 | 91   | 11.44             | -0.64  | 95   |
| Neihart   | 92          | 38  | 63  | 95   | +8  | 0.22          | -0.27 | 12.66           | +0.06 | 100  | 19.83             | +0.81  | 104  |
| Rogers Pass   | 95          | 40  | 65  | 105  | +15 | 0.60          | +0.18 | 11.24           | +0.66 | 106  | 14.79             | -1.01  | 94   |
| Roundup   | 105         | 41  | 72  | 156  | +26 | 0.34          | +0.06 | 9.82            | +1.37 | 116  | 12.47             | +0.73  | 106  |
| Ryegate   | 96          | 43  | 67  | 117  | +12 | 0.00          | -0.33 | 9.60            | +1.23 | 115  | 12.64             | +1.07  | 109  |
| Stanford  | 91          | 44  | 68  | 126  | +18 | 0.05          | -0.37 | 10.24           | -0.59 | 95   | 13.84             | -1.47  | 90   |
| Townsend  | 95          | 41  | 66  | 117  | +13 | 0.05          | -0.26 | 5.27            | -1.66 | 76   | 7.46              | -1.96  | 79   |
| Valentine   | 101         | 42  | 69  | 134  | +22 | 0.09          | -0.19 | 10.76           | +1.96 | 122  | 13.45             | +1.23  | 110  |
| Wht Sulphur Spr   | 94          | 41  | 66  | 112  | +26 | 0.21          | -0.07 | 7.60            | -0.53 | 93   | 11.27             | -0.48  | 96   |
| SOUTHWEST   |             |     |     |      |     |               |       |                 |       |      |                   |        |      |
| Boulder   | 91          | 41  | 65  | 103  | +13 | 0.01          | -0.28 | 6.03            | -1.34 | 82   | 8.70              | -1.51  | 85   |
| Bozeman   | 93          | 39  | 69  | 133  | +26 | 0.08          | -0.27 | 13.57           | +2.91 | 127  | 22.14             | +4.98  | 129  |
| Butte   | 90          | 37  | 63  | 93   | +19 | 0.01          | -0.27 | 6.24            | -1.43 | 81   | 8.42              | -3.03  | 74   |
| Dillon  | 92          | 39  | 66  | 116  | +24 | 0.01          | -0.27 | 3.86            | -2.63 | 59   | 6.79              | -1.94  | 78   |
| Ennis   | 91          | 33  | 62  | 85   | -2  | 0.00          | -0.35 | 7.46            | -0.77 | 91   | 12.58             | +0.43  | 104  |
| Lakeview  | 89          | 37  | 64  | 102  | +48 | 0.00          | -0.35 | 5.83            | -4.08 | 59   | 13.36             | -3.94  | 77   |
| W Yellowstone   | 88          | 35  | 62  | 83   | +34 | 0.00          | -0.28 | 7.86            | -0.91 | 90   | 19.56             | -0.42  | 98   |
| Wisdom  | 90          | 26  | 58  | 57   | +16 | 0.05          | -0.17 | 5.04            | -1.62 | 76   | 10.74             | +0.01  | 100  |
| SOUTH CENTRAL   |             |     |     |      |     |               |       |                 |       |      |                   |        |      |
| Billings  | 101         | 51  | 74  | 168  | +29 | 0.18          | -0.03 | 6.44            | -1.57 | 80   | 10.40             | -2.85  | 78   |
| Cooke City  | 91          | 38  | 65  | 110  | +75 | 0.00          | -0.49 | 6.38            | -4.70 | 58   | 11.70             | -11.40 | 51   |
| Gardiner  | 93          | 42  | 70  | 143  | +27 | 0.00          | -0.18 | 2.77            | -2.78 | 50   | 6.59              | -2.15  | 75   |
| Hardin  | 102         | 47  | 74  | 170  | +22 | 0.00          | -0.14 | 8.87            | +2.25 | 134  | 11.79             | +1.15  | 111  |
| Huntley   | 103         | 40  | 70  | 140  | +17 | 0.35          | +0.12 | 8.22            | +0.12 | 101  | 12.16             | -0.35  | 97   |
| Hysham  | 98          | 42  | 71  | 146  | +11 | 0.14          | -0.07 | 8.89            | +0.93 | 112  | 11.96             | +0.06  | 101  |
| Joliet  | 98          | 41  | 69  | 132  | +18 | 0.00          | -0.28 | 7.23            | -1.30 | 85   | 11.37             | -2.74  | 81   |
| Livingston  | 98          | 37  | 68  | 131  | +22 | 0.07          | -0.28 | 7.92            | -1.52 | 84   | 11.60             | -2.35  | 83   |
| Nye   | 96          | 39  | 69  | 134  | +39 | 0.00          | -0.35 | 12.05           | +1.04 | 109  | 17.25             | +0.92  | 106  |
| Rapelje   | 99          | 43  | 70  | 142  | +24 | 0.26          | -0.02 | 8.89            | -0.11 | 99   | 12.45             | -1.27  | 91   |
| SOUTHEAST   |             |     |     |      |     |               |       |                 |       |      |                   |        |      |
| Albion  | 95          | 37  | 68  | 129  | +10 | 0.00          | -0.30 | 19.85           | +9.83 | 198  | 22.70             | +9.61  | 173  |
| Baker   | 95          | 36  | 70  | 140  | +12 | 0.06          | -0.24 | 8.87            | -0.16 | 98   | 10.13             | -2.95  | 77   |
| Broadus   | 95          | 42  | 73  | 160  | +22 | 0.00          | -0.18 | 13.51           | +5.28 | 164  | 15.48             | +3.11  | 125  |
| Ekalaka   | 88          | 39  | 70  | 144  | +13 | 0.00          | -0.28 | 13.42           | +2.85 | 127  | 16.11             | +0.64  | 104  |
| Miles City  | 101         | 45  | 75  | 175  | +23 | 0.01          | -0.21 | 7.87            | -0.64 | 92   | 8.49              | -3.57  | 70   |
| Plevna  | 94          | 35  | 70  | 141  | +13 | 0.29          | -0.01 | 8.81            | -0.22 | 98   | 10.41             | -2.67  | 80   |
| Compiled by AWIS Inc. based on NWS data. DFN-Departure from normal 1970-2000. GDD-Growing degree days |             |     |     |      |     |               |       |                 |       |      |                   |        |      |